

Energy Partners

A monthly look at the happenings of and related to:



New-Mac Electric Cooperative

Your Touchstone Energy® Partner 

High school juniors win educational trips

New-Mac sending area students to Washington D.C. and Jefferson City

It will be all young ladies representing New-Mac Electric in Washington D.C. and Jefferson City as a result of the co-op's first Youth Tour/CYCLE Essay Contest.

The contest was open to juniors in the 10 school districts that are at least partially served by New-Mac Electric. The 11th-graders submitted essays on the topic "The Importance of Electric Cooperatives."

Finalists were then selected from the participants and invited to New-Mac's Neosho office to be interviewed by a panel of judges.

The overall winner of the competition was Lani Ogle from Sarcoxie High School. She will serve as the co-op's delegate for Youth Tour – a week-long educational experience in Washington D.C. this upcoming June. Ogle, who lives on a farm served by New-Mac, will travel with around 100 other juniors representing cooperatives from across the state, visting landmarks such as

See Essay Contest, page 4



Lani Ogle (above, center), who will represent New-Mac Electric on the 2016 Youth Tour in Washington D.C., receives her itinerary packet from General Manager, Mitch McCumber, and fellow co-op representatives (L-R) Josh King, Lisa McMeen and Mark Rakes. New-Mac Electric will send a pair of juniors to Jefferson City for CYCLE (the Cooperative Youth Conference & Leadership Experience). Those delegates are (at left) Sarah Hill and Willow Jones, who are receiving their trip packets from Mc-Cumber and Rakes respectively.

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New-Mac Electric Cooperative
Your Touchstone Energy® Partner 

Energy Partners is a monthly publication of New-Mac Electric for the purpose of informing members of the programs, services and happenings of, and related to, the cooperative.

Please play it safe during Kite Month

April is National Kite Month, and as you enjoy this recreation, New-Mac Electric encourages all to keep safety in mind.

The windy days of spring provide ideal kite flying conditions, however these gusts can bring about risks if kite-flyers fail to use sound judgment.

Kite safety begins with the selection of a good location, such as an open field away from power lines. Kites should always be kept a lengthy distance from power lines – since kites often stray from their intended course. If your kite does come in contact with power lines, let go of it immediately! Never attempt to retrieve a kite that is tangled in power lines.

However, there's more to kite safety than simply avoiding power lines. Kites should never be flown in stormy weather. Always fly kites made of wood, paper or plastic – never use metal when making a kite, and only use dry string.

Remember, a safe day of kite flying is an enjoyable one.

Mulch available

Just in time for spring landscaping, New-Mac Electric has mulch available for \$5 per tractor scoop. Anyone interested should call the Neosho office (451-1515 or 800-322-3849) and ask for Susan or Tobey so arrangements can be made to assist you.



Clockwise from above, Mark Rakes teaches attendees of the Neosho session of New-Mac University about the varying wattages of household appliances; Rakes shows the Anderson class inexpensive ways to conserve energy, such as using foam outlet gaskets; Josh King informs those in Anderson about services such as the co-op's free automated pay-by-phone service.



Members attend first offering of New-Mac U

There were no diplomas handed out, but New-Mac University graduated its first group of students.

The beauty of it is, there's no progression of classes. Come to which ever courses you desire. Attendance is optional, admission is always free, and hopefully you'll find the information valuable.

New-Mac University was introduced at the electric cooperative's annual meeting last fall by General Manager Mitch McCumber. It is a free seminar series made available to members of the cooperative.

The first class was "Understanding Your Electric Usage – Just the Facts." The course was offered at Neosho on March 10 – then again in Anderson on March 17. Both sessions featured a room full of students, who voluntarily turned in high marks on the only assignment – an evaluation form.

Students of the first class were given instruction on:

- components of their bills
- how electricity is measured
- varying appliance/electronic wattages
- inexpensive ways to be energy efficient
- the SmartHub app and online services
- and more

Future topics will be determined based on input from the membership.

"We'll talk about whatever our members want us to talk about," said Mark Rakes, Manager of Marketing and Consumer Services.

Electric cooperatives follow the 7 Cooperative Principles, which include (No. 5) "education, training and information" and (No. 7) "concern for community."

"New-Mac University gives us another way to follow our guiding principles," said Rakes.

The next New-Mac University class will be offered in June. Again, it will take place at both the Neosho and Anderson office. Next month, we will announce the topic, dates and times.

Trade Show Season



Local trade shows have given New-Mac Electric the opportunity to share resources and information with members. The co-op recently attended the HBA Marketplace (formerly the Joplin Home Show) and the Neosho Business & Industry Review. The HBA event was held Feb. 26-27 at the Pavilion at Downstream Casino Resort, where (above) Linda Crosby is pictured interacting with some young visitors. Above right, the New-Mac exhibit featured information regarding the Youth Tour/CYCLE Essay Contest (see Page 1), scholarships and many pamphlets with energy efficiency tips. At right, Crosby and Josh King talks with attendees of the Neosho show, held March 18-19.

New-Mac offers variety of surge protection options

Storm season is setting in. Are your appliances and electronics protected? Ready or not, there's no telling when lightning is going to strike near your home.

As a customer service, New-Mac Electric offers a full line of surge protection. Devices are available for customizing protection to fit almost any residential need.

As a starting point of protection, New-Mac can provide members with a suppression device installed at the meter. This device, known as a meter can (or surge diverter), provides protection for your home's major appliances – specifically: refrigerators, stoves, washers, dryers, dishwashers, freezers, and furnaces located inside the home. It does not cover outdoor fixtures, such as central heat-and-air units or heat pumps. The meter can is available to New-Mac members for a monthly lease of \$5 (plus a \$25 installation charge).

While the meter can covers the aforementioned larger appliances, it does not guard against damage incurred through phone lines, coax connections or any other path lightning may take.

Phone lines and coax connections can be addressed with various surge-suppression strips, available at both New-Mac offices. These strips compliment the meter can by guarding against damage coming from other entry points. Or, these plug-in surge strips can offer stand-alone coverage for sensitive electronics, although customers need to

make sure to use the proper device for their needs.

For more information or advice on choosing the right protection, visit with or call New-Mac's member-services representatives at 417-451-1515 or 800-322-3849.

Energy Partners' Recipe of the Month:

EGGS BENEDICT CASSEROLE

Submitted by New-Mac member: **Cheryl Elbert**

- | | |
|--------------------------------|--------------------------------|
| 6 c. French bread cut in cubes | 1 tsp. salt |
| 12 eggs | 1½ tsp. hot sauce, divided |
| 1½ c. milk | 12 oz. Canadian bacon, chopped |
| 3 Tbsp. chives, chopped | 1 pkg. Hollandaise sauce |

Spray 9x13 inch pan with cooking spray. Spread bread cubes on the bottom. Beat eggs, milk, chives, salt and 1 tsp. hot sauce in a large bowl. Stir in Canadian bacon. Pour over bread cubes. Let stand 5 minutes. Bake at 350° for 40 minutes or until mixture is puffed and set. Make Hollandaise sauce and add ½ tsp. hot sauce. Keep sauce warm until ready to serve with casserole.

Send your recipe, along with your name and account number, to: Recipes, c/o New-Mac Electric, P.O. Box 310, Neosho, MO 64850; or recipes@newmac.com. If your recipe is selected, New-Mac will apply a \$15 credit to your bill.



Rain or shine (or ice or snow or wind), linemen are ready to go to work to keep the power on. Have you thanked a lineman lately? April 11 is National Lineman Appreciation Day.

April 11 is the day to tell a lineman 'thanks!'

No one likes to be out of power. Unfortunately, power outages are usually brought about by the worst of weather conditions. So, how is power restored?

You know it's because of our dedicated linemen, willing to brave the rain, sleet, snow or extreme heat so we can enjoy all the modern conveniences to which we are accustomed.

When is the last time you've thanked a



lineman? April 11 is National Lineman Appreciation Day. If you see a lineman, tell him "Thank you." Or, if you'd prefer to do so through social media, do so with the hashtag #ThankALineman.

Essay Contest

Continued from page 1

the White House, Washington Monument, Jefferson Memorial and many more.

Sarah Hill, from Seneca, and Willow Jones, Sarcoxie, were selected to take part in CYCLE (Cooperative Youth Conference and Leadership Experience), which takes place July 20-22 in Jefferson City. This trip to Missouri's capital city features tours, fun activities designed to educate about electric cooperatives, and the opportunity to debate a fictional bill from the House floor of

the Capitol building. CYCLE will feature juniors from 37 electric cooperatives from across Missouri.

In the event that one of the New-Mac's selections can not attend, Madelyn Bentz from Diamond, who placed fourth in the competition, will serve as the alternate.

The Youth Tour/CYCLE Essay Contest will be an annual competition going forward for New-Mac Electric. So, remember as your children, relatives or acquaintances enter 11th grade, there's a great opportunity for them through their local electric cooperative.



P.O. Box 310 — 12105 East Highway 86
Neosho, Missouri 64850
Telephone: 417/451-1515 800/322-3849
Fax: 417/451-9042
Pay-by-Phone: 855/874-5348
Office Hours: Neosho — 8 a.m. to 5 p.m.
Anderson — 8 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.

Or visit us on the Web at
www.newmac.com

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Services Provided to Members

Call our consumer services department for information on the following services:

- Automated Phone Payment**
- Autowithdrawal Payment**
- Green Power**
- Levelized Billing**
- Online Payment & Usage History**
- Rental Light**
- Meeting rooms available at both locations**
- Credit Card Acceptance**
- Safety Programs (upon request)**
- Surge Protection**

Questions? Comments?

Contact: Mark K. Rakes
P.O. Box 310, Neosho, MO
mrakes@newmac.com

New-Mac is sure to send some young men in future years as well – the young ladies just happened to be tough to beat this year.

Congratulations Lani, Sarah and Willow, we know you'll represent our cooperative well.

Newton County's Safe Kids Day scheduled for May 6

New-Mac Electric invites kids of all ages to attend Neosho's annual Safe Kids Day, scheduled for May 6 from 2-5 p.m. in the parking lot of the Newton County Health Department.

Businesses, groups and emergency responders from across the area work together to put on this event, focusing on keeping

kids safe.

Parents will be able to get their children's fingerprints & a photo ID. There will be safety demonstrations, kids games, activities and lots of prizes and freebies. A \$1 donation is requested for the photo ID and a few other items, but there is no charge for most of the activities.

Each year, New-Mac Electric does its part by teaching kids to respect electricity around the home. The co-op also brings one of its big yellow bucket trucks, so kids can see what linemen use to restore power.

For more information on Safe Kids Day, contact the Newton County Health Department at (417) 451-3743.